

Santa Ana, California. These Medal of Honor recipients are again being honored for their bravery while serving in the military for our country. These exceptionally brave heroes live or have lived in Orange County for some time in their lives.

William E. Barber, 78 of Irvine, California, was a captain of 220 men in Korea in 1950. During a fierce battle with the Chinese, he ignored orders to withdraw and fought with his men for five days in sub-zero temperatures. This extraordinary feat of bravery and fortitude saved thousands of American lives.

Walter D. Ehlers, 76, of Buena Park, California, fought during the D-Day invasion in 1944. He singlehandedly eliminated an entire machine-gun crew. During this battle, he was shot by a sniper and yet he was not deterred. He carried a wounded rifleman to safety and returned to the fight.

Kenneth A. Walsh, 81, of Santa Ana was a Marine pilot fighting against the Japanese formations over the Solomon Islands in 1943. He fearlessly dived into the Japanese squadrons and shot down two Japanese dive bombers and a fighter even though his own plane had been hit several times.

Clarence B. Craft, 76, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, was born and raised in Santa Ana California. As an Army private he led a grenade charge from the top of Hen Hill on Okinawa. Under the blaze of heavy artillery fire, he charged the enemy troops, driving them into a cave. He threw a satchel of grenades into the cave which caused an explosion killing the enemy troops.

John P. Baca, 49, San Diego and Huntington Beach, California, fought in Viet Nam in the 1970's. When a hand grenade was thrown into the midst of his platoon, the Army specialist fourth class covered the grenade with his steel helmet and fell on the helmet, thus saving the lives of eight men.

Three of the men honored today are deceased.

Nelson M. Holderman, was a World War I Army captain who lived in Santa Ana. Though wounded three times in 1918 in the Argonne Forest in France, he carried two wounded men to safety through enemy fire.

Chris Carr, was a World War II Army sergeant who lived in Huntington Beach, California. His troop was pinned down near Guignola, Italy, in 1944. Carr climbed around a flank of German soldiers and captured five positions, killing eight and capturing 22.

Donald A. Gary lived many years in Garden Grove, California. He was a World War II Navy lieutenant. When the USS Franklin was attacked by aircraft near Kobe, Japan, the munitions and stockpiles exploded. Gary assisted several hundred men to safety who were trapped in the smoke-filled compartment.

Each of these men has served the country and their fellow Americans by disregarding their own safety and their own lives. Extraordinary men, extraordinary feats. Their acts of heroism saved many American lives. I ask you to join me today in recognizing these remarkable men who played a most vital part in the preservation of America's freedom.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WALTER PORTER

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Walter James Porter a founding member of the Rotary Club of Southeast San Diego, a retired educator, community activist and "all-around good guy!"

Dr. Porter and his wife Betty, also a retired educator of distinction, have served the community of San Diego with dedication and compassion for many years. While Dr. Porter's career was in the field of education, he is also widely known for his many civic and social contributions.

Dr. Porter was a early founder of the San Diego County Human Relations Commission, and the San Diego Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. His early political involvement began as a staff member to then California State Assemblymember Peter R. Chacon and later as an associate of such important California political figures as former Congressmen Mervyn Dymally, Gus Hawkins, and State Senator Bill Green.

Dr. Porter has always been in the forefront of grassroots political organizations in the community. Most recently, he joined the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Democratic Club, of which he is a charter member.

With his very busy schedule, he still finds the time to contribute to such worthy community organizations as "100 Black Men" and the very prestigious Alpha Pi Boulé of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, which consists of a sterling body of professionals that represent some of the best and brightest minds in my Congressional District.

However, Dr. Walter Porter's most glowing accomplishments in the educational field continue to be the brightest star in his galaxy of achievements. His pioneering efforts during the era of the Model Cities Program, most significantly marked by the opening of the Educational Cultural Complex, today stand as a testament to his ingenuity.

On Friday, June 5, 1998 during an evening of light-hearted fun, friends, associates and community leaders in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Southeast San Diego, will sponsor a roast in his honor, Dr. Walter Porter is more than a versatile jazz aficionado, and more than the visionary of Adult and College Education. Dr. Walter Porter is this community's icon of professionalism and leadership!

RECOGNITION OF FINDLAY HIGH SCHOOL'S OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THE "WE THE PEOPLE" NATIONAL FINALS

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight the outstanding performance of my hometown high school in Findlay, Ohio, in the "We The People * * * the Citizen and the Constitution" national finals held in Washington, D.C. this May. I would like to congratulate

Findlay High School students Amber Ayres, Richard Bornhorst, Rebekah Browning, Andy Cole, Jill Crusa, Annie Davis, Brian Fiske, Julie Francis, Levi Gephart, Phillip Hodgman, John Kennedy, Scott Kidwell, Mark Laux, Kurt Lindamood, Nick Lotz, James Ring, Kate Scoles, Hannah Shadle, Michael Taylor, Evalyn Vanderlaak, Taryn Wilgus, and their teacher, Alvin R. Bell, for their in depth knowledge of congressional issues and legislative procedures. The national finals competition simulates a congressional hearing whereby students testify as constitutional experts before a panel of judges. These outstanding young people competed against 49 other classes from across the nation and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American government. They are prime examples of all that is right in our local education system. They are to be commended for a job well done.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM E. REICH

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the career of a lifelong public servant, Mr. William E. Reich. Mr. Reich is a native of New York State, born and raised in the Village of Tannersville, Greene County, New York. Bill is the devoted and loving husband to his wife, the former Elizabeth Ann Parslow. Despite significant hardship and adversity in his life, Bill has always maintained a commitment to himself and his family to persevere. Bill and Betty Reich are the loving parents of two children, Glenn and Wendy, as well as grandparents of 6, 3 boys and 3 girls. Bill is also active in his community and is a Member, Mt. Tabor Lodge, F&M #807; Member, Catskill Council #78 Royal and Select Masons; and Member of the Royal Arch Mountain Chapter 250 Masons.

Mr. Speaker, Bill has served on the County Highway Department for thirty-nine years. In his professional capacity, Bill was appointed Greene County Superintendent of Highways in 1979. Since this appointment, Bill has volunteered his time in many Statewide Associations including the New York State Association of Counties and the New York State Association for Solid Waste Management.

Prior to Bill's appointment as Greene County Superintendent of Highways, Mr. Reich served in the Greene County Highway Department as general foreman from 1970-1979; working foreman from 1966-1970; engineering aid from 1964-1966; motor equipment operator from 1963-1964; and road maintainer/laborer from 1959-1963.

In addition to Bill's efforts to provide a safe and efficient infrastructure for the safety of the motoring public in Greene County, Bill served with distinction as the Mayor of the Village of Tannersville, New York. A lifelong member of the Republican Party, Bill proudly serves as a Member of the New York State and Greene County Republican Committees.

Mr. Speaker, the membership of the New York State County Highway Association, affected industry, as well as New York's motoring public, are grateful to Bill for his dedication